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Records of some of the chapters are in deplorable shape, and it is only through the co-operation of the men in the field that we shall be able gradually to get complete lists of all of our members throughout the country.

We are rapidly growing in number. It is estimated that there are at least two thousand Phi Delta Kappas in the United States. If we put off much longer the collecting of the data concerning these men, it will be too late, and we can never hope to have any certain knowledge of those men who have been our

pioneers. Let us avoid this while we can. Work with your secretary! Help him all you can! He may be having a hard time, and a failure to respond to his appeals is the most deadly discouragement for effective work known.

We want to get out a complete Directory and History in 1917 that will be a joy to all men interested in the organization and a credit to Phi Delta Kappa. It is largely "up to" each man in the field whether this becomes a reality or not.

The 1916 Council - A Study in Interest

Various optimistic maxims regarding the silver lining of every cloud, the compensations in all things and the good in ill winds might well be quoted with assurance of their being very appropos by any one who has been in touch with the history of the Fraternity during the past year.

It would be useless to disguise the fact that there were currents and counter currents between the 1915 and 1916 Councils and that we had a condition that was far from smooth sailing during that year. Neither was it to be expected that this would not result in differences of opinion at the meetings of the Chicago Council or that at times considerable friction would manifest itself.

But if "all's well that ends well," surely all is well with Phi Delta Kappa now.

Regardless of other and minor features, the 1916 Council was marked by the realization on the part of every delegate that they were present to take measures that were far-reaching in their

meaning—that there was nothing casual or formal about any of the work. Mere matters of routine sunk into the background, and the interest was of the keenest sort imaginable.

This interest, which was but a continuation of that which had been so marked during the year past among the chapters, has utterly transcended anything of the sort the Fraternity has ever known. It has been the result of a problem, a real problem, even a crisis in our affairs, and it is the belief of the writer that its stimulation and beneficent results have far outweighed all others.

From now on we can scarcely help being more of a Fraternity in the truest national sense, more united, more conscious of our strength because of our union and of our resulting appreciation of common ideals, and therefore more efficient in carrying them out—in actual performance.

The tempest is behind us. The future is bright with promise.

J. DAVID HOUSER,
National Historian.